



## Frederick County Commission For Women

5370 Public Safety Place, 3rd Floor

Frederick, MD 21704

(301) 600-1066

CFW@FrederickCountyMD.gov

[www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/fccfw](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/fccfw)

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### Public Meeting Minutes September 7, 2015

#### COMMISSIONERS

**Annie Jones**  
*President*

**Michelle Nusum-Smith**  
*Vice President*

**Sharon Dobson**  
*Recorder*

**Evelyn Stephenson**  
*Treasurer*

**Christine Ferguson**  
*Past President*

Nina Carr  
Rosario Campos  
Chloe Scott  
Olga Hernandez-Smith  
Shellome Walters

*The Commission for Women meets the second Tuesday of every month (except July) at 7:00pm. The public is invited.*

The Commission for Women is a program of the Frederick County Government

**Commissioners Present:** Annie Jones, Michelle Nusum-Smith, Rosario Campos, Chloe Schott, Olga Hernandez-Smith, Evelyn Stephenson, Shellome Walters, Christine Ferguson, and Sharon Dobson

**Commissioners Absent:** Ashley Collier, Nina Carr

**Guests Present:** Constance Baptist, Amanda Fleet, Marnica Johnson, Theresa Smith, Whitney Duck, Maura Page, Elizabeth Chung, Terry Roseby, Brigitte Nkamsi, Valerie Dougherty and Diana Carrillo (CFW Intern).

President Annie Jones called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was present at this time.

#### I. Executive Committee Report

- Guests in attendance acknowledged, introduction of guests and commissioners
- Motion was made and seconded to approve the August 11, 2015 Minutes as presented. Minutes were approved with two abstentions.
- Ms. Elizabeth Chung, Executive Director of the Asian American Center of Frederick (AACF) was introduced. Ms. Chung gave an overview of the services offered by the AACF as well as distributing information. She highlighted their upcoming Frederick Community Health Fair, October 24, 2015. The CFW will have a table along with the booth at this event. All Commissioners and volunteers were encouraged to attend this event. Ms. Chung also discussed several opportunities to partner with the CFW including an internship program that is funded by Americorp. Ms. Chung also mentioned that they have funding to assist individuals with their insurance copay if needed.
- The CFW can resubmit their budget request to County Executive Gardner. This revision will need more detail that the previous request including why the funds are needed and how they would be allocated. Members of the Finance Committee are drafting the revised budget.
- At the request of the County, the CFW office has been moved from Winchester Hall to 5370 Public Safety Place, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. Two supply cabinets have been purchased. Several Commissioners volunteered to help unpack boxes and set up the office. At this time, President Jones and Commissioner Campos have badges allowing entry after hours.
- The October, November and December CFW Public Meetings will be held in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Winchester Room due to construction being done to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor hearing room.

***Our Mission: To create a stronger community by addressing challenges and fostering unlimited opportunities for all women.***

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### II. Old Business

- President Jones attended the Woman's Equality Day at Ft. Detrick where she was a speaker (a copy of her speech was distributed at the meeting).
- Adriana Parsell attended the Housing First Community meeting. Their goal is to end homelessness in Frederick County by providing housing first. They believe that if a person has a home, then they can work on other issues.
- CFW Office Hours – Commissioner Campos will begin providing office coverage on Thursdays. Other volunteers are needed to provide coverage on other days and times. Amanda Fleet has drafted a brochure outlining the services and purpose of the CFW. This brochure is currently being edited.
- The Fall Open House is still being targeted for November 5.
- Human Trafficking – 2 Events are planned for this fall. In partnership with the Human Relations Commission, the lecture *Innocence Stolen – Protecting our Children Online* will be presented on November 17 at Governor Thomas Johnson High School, doors open at 6:00pm. Commissioner Scott also discussed an upcoming roundtable discussion focusing on human rights for children (date, time and location TBD).
- The CFW will also ask the County to create a Human Trafficking Task Force. The CFW is compiling materials to present to the County to support this initiative.
- SheLEADS – An introductory letter has been sent to Frederick High outlining this program. It will consist of 3-4 sessions highlighting leadership qualities, goal setting, advocacy and public and community service. It was suggested that we also connect with the Woman to Woman Mentoring program as they have already conducted seminars on these topics.
- In conjunction with the Human Relations Commission, the CFW will have voter registration at the Naturalization Ceremony on October 17, 2015, Winchester Hall. Commissioners Dobson and Carr will attend. Volunteers are also needed.
- Annual Meeting – Vice President Nusum-Smith distributed notes from the July 14, 2015 Annual Meeting. She highlighted objectives based on the CFW purpose that would become the focus for 2015/2016. They are:
  - a. Host or partner in two community events that will expand women's education;
  - b. Strengthen home life by directing attention to critical problems confronting women; and
  - c. Provide a central agency for the collection and referral of activities and services of interest to women.
- A special election was held for the position of Recorder. Vice President Nusum-Smith moved that Commissioner Dobson be elected Recorder, motion was seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. The motion passed unanimously.

### III. New Business – there was no new business discussed.

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### IV. Committee(s) & Special Projects

- Legislative Committee – The CFW has been asked by the County to recommend legislative issues affecting women and children. President Jones discussed four that the CFW. They are: Right to Rest (HB1027), Fair Scheduling (HB969/SB688), Pay Equity (HB1051/SBZ424) and Healthy Working Family Act (HB385/SB40).
- Recruiting Committee – Commissioner Ashley Collier has resigned effective 9/8/2015. Her term was to expire on June 30, 2016.
- Three candidates have been interviewed by the Recruiting Committee. They are: Amanda Fleet, Whitney Duck and Constance Baptist. Each candidate introduced themselves and discussed why they would like to be appointed to the CFW. A vote on their applications will take place at the October 2015 Public Meeting.

### V. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, 7:00pm in the Winchester Room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Winchester Hall)

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